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employment. He is a poet, he concedes willingly that he stands second to Firdausi in his art. He concedes that Persia is the best of all possible lands, that Persian courtesy is the pink of all politeness, that Persian achievement is superior to all deeds elsewhere in the world. In Persia the best is represented by Kerman. This is not the sublimity of impudence, it is the sublimity of belief based upon conviction. Nurullah does not prove any of his contentions, he states his belief in happy assurance that these are self-evident facts. It results that we have a quaint medley of braggadocio and simplicity, but throughout runs a most interesting account of Persian life as seen by a Persian willing to point out its beauties to the alien. The work is veritably a storehouse of information as to Persian customs, folk-lore and opinions. Unfortunately, the storehouse is locked, the absence of an index is now inexcusable. Happily for the reader, Nurullah lives far from the capital, Kerman is for him the heart of the world, it is only through the presence of an English physician that he has been led to set forth for the foreign reader his knowledge of a Persian life still uncorrupted by external ideas.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

EUROPE

Kulturgeographische Wanderungen im Koblenzer Verkehrsgebiet. Von Dr. R. Martiny. pp. 189-349, map and illustrations. Forschungen zur deutschen Landes- und Volkskunde herausgegeben von Dr. Fr. G. Hahn, Neunzehnter Band, Heft 3. Verlag von J. Engelhorn's Nachf., Stuttgart, 1911. Mk. 9.50. 9 x 6½.

Dr. Martiny, following the general scheme of these books, interprets the Coblenz trade district in its cultural development, showing the natural reasons which have partly influenced the location of its towns, its industrial establishments, its railroads and other highways, vineyards, fields, forests, etc., describing also the various directions in which the cultural life of the people has developed. The book contains an excellent folded map and is a careful and minute study in anthropogeography.

Guide to Italy and Sicily. Sixth Edition. cxxviii and 394 pp., 19 maps, 36 plans and indices. Macmillan & Co., Ltd., London, 1911. \$3.25. 6½ x 4½.

The sixth edition of this useful guide book will be welcome. It is a concise and handy volume which omits no really important sights of Italy, though careful not to confuse the tourist by diverting his attention to the insignificant. The needs of all kinds of tourists are kept in view and even cyclists will find considerable matter intended especially for them. The maps and plans, of course, add much to the helpfulness of the work.

POLAR

Polar Exploration. By William S. Bruce, LL.D., F.R.S.E. 254 pp., maps and index. Henry Holt and Co., New York, 1911. \$.75. 7 x 5.

This is not a history of Polar exploration but rather a book written for a wide public outlining the essential facts and problems of exploration in high latitudes. Dr. Bruce has had personal experience in nine Polar voyages and leadership in several of them. In this little volume he gives in a most readable manner the quintessence of his experience and observations. His topics as given in the ten chapter headings are:

Astronomical Features of the Polar Regions; The Polar Regions; Land Ice;